

July 14, 2005

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Airport Commission convened in regular session on Thursday, July 14, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Browning, Dingman, Donnellan, Gates, Ouwerkerk, Tymczyszyn, and Chairperson Pyles.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian and Business Manager Zucker.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Browning moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donnellan; and hearing no objection, Chairperson Pyles so ordered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2005

Chairperson Pyles pointed out that the word excused on page 5, item 8H should read recused.

Commissioner Tymczyszyn noted a technical inaccuracy in item 8R on page 6: Commissioner Ouwerkerk has not been a Chairperson for six years but rather has served on the Commission for that period of time.

MOTION: Commissioner Ouwerkerk moved for the approval of the June 9, 2005 Airport Commission minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Browning, and a voice vote reflected unanimous approval with Commissioner Tymczyszyn abstaining due to his absence from that meeting.

6. ACTION ITEMS

None.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

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7a. AERONAUTICAL OPERATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that new hangar rates for residents and non residents were listed as of August 1, 2005.

Facility Operations Megerdichian described the progress of the airport security project noting that staff would meet with the consultants in August and would either move forward at that time or request further information if necessary.

Commissioner Donnellan commended Commissioner Gates for suggesting that ongoing projects be included as part of the report and Commissioner Ouwerkerk questioned the timing of projects. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian explained that the five year capital project identified which fiscal year each project would be completed in and he agreed to add the projects that his office oversees to the report.

Responding to Chairperson Pyles, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian explained that two bids for gate relocation had been received that were twice the estimates furnished by the engineers so the bids were rejected and the project will be incorporated into a larger project in an effort to achieve cost savings.

Commissioner Tymczyszyn questioned the increase to the Lockhart Corporation contract and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian clarified that the project had been combined with other projects which increased the contract amount significantly. He added that when the project is complete he would provide the Commission with a brief on the project including where the six monitors would be located and he noted that any surplus funds would be liquidated and returned to airport funds. Commissioner Tymczyszyn offered to email a copy of the contract to Commissioners.

At the request of Commissioner Gates, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian agreed to obtain further information on digital area photographs.

Chairperson Pyles observed that the hangar waiting list had been substantially updated with the majority of those on the list from within the past 5 years and Commissioner Ouwerkerk commented that some of the older names on the list were waiting for medium hangars or executive hangars.

7b. AERONAUTICAL OPERATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Commission discussed possible reasons for the drop in numbers including weather and rising fuel costs.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian agreed to obtain a copy of the Caltrans report and he noted that that Operations handles Caltrans inspections which check all operational movement areas on the field.

7c. LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT – AERONAUTICAL

Commissioner Browning noted that some people are not in favor of having the Verizon tower by the restrooms. He reported preexisting cell site locations around the

airport and noted a large tower on Vista Del Mar on the west end of LAX directly in the flight path which indicated to him that locating towers by the airport is not a big hazard. He added that the FAA would most likely have to approve the suggested cell tower location.

7d. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Community Outreach and Education Committee
- None.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

8a. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that the City Attorney had pulled the changes to the Hangar Rental Agreement from the June 14, 2005 City Council agenda because he wanted to ask the State Attorney General whether any conflicted Commissioners who were not able to vote could speak before the City Council. In order to make sure the City does not violate any rules, the question has been submitted to the State Attorney General but the typical turnaround time is 46 months and when that ruling is made the matter will then go before the City Council. Commissioner Ouwerkerk received clarification that the item would not come before the Commission again and that the Commission would be informed prior to the item going before the City Council.

8b. Responding to Commissioner Dingman, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that the tower gate would be replaced on August 9.

8c. Commissioner Gates expressed concern with potential noise issues relating to planned senior citizen housing north of the runway and adjacent to the helicopter landing pad. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian pointed out that there would be public meetings on the issue and he did not think the matter had gone before the Planning Commission yet.

8d. Commissioner Browning announced that a new fence had been installed behind the restrooms at the east end of the airport for safety reasons.

8e. Commissioner Browning reported concerns that the proposed cell tower would encroach upon the wash rack but he felt there would be plenty of room and that larger aircraft should not be washing over the lawn area but rather should wash at the other end. Commissioner Tymczyszyn pointed out that the issue was a question of taxi room and Commissioner Donnellen questioned how many planes it applied to.

8f. Commissioner Browning reported concerns with inaccurate and misleading information provided by a Commissioner to Nancy Clinton which she then circulated. He noted that she had agreed to put out a retraction and he expressed disappointment that someone had provided incorrect information that was damaging to the Commission.

8g. Commissioner Tymczyszyn cited concerns with old furniture dumped by the trash bins at the end hangars and he reported asking Nancy Clinton to put a note in the next TAA Newsletter about it. He pointed out that dumping old furniture by the trash bins isn't fair to the tenants on the end of the hangars and it is not part of the agreement.

8h. Commissioner Donnellan echoed comments about dumping old furniture and asked about the status on the Hi-Shear property. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that the structure had been demolished and the site allocated for Lowe's Hardware.

8i. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that signage indicating that dumping is prohibited is being made and would be posted when complete.

8j. Chairperson Pyles suggested setting a theme for Commission objectives and noted that he had expressed interest in reviewing the master plan but after talking to staff, concluded that the Commission should begin consideration of a new work plan. He asked Commissioners for their input and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that three Commissioners had previously been through the work plan process and some objectives had been completed and some are still outstanding. Several items have been brought forth as far as master plan requests and if the Commission wishes the work plan can be revisited and updated to set a good focus as far as where the Commission wants to go for the next 3-4 years. The Commission discussed the proper course of action and asked staff to begin the process as soon as possible. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian agreed to contact the facilitator and Chairperson Pyles requested that a copy of the old work plan be distributed to the Commissioners.

8k. Commissioner Browning distributed a workbook made by children who had visited the airport and he indicated that the trip was outstanding. He indicated that Robinson Helicopter had helped out and the visit was on one day instead of over four days as is usually done.

8l. Commissioner Donnellan congratulated Commissioner Browning for his participation.

8m. John King, 2421 227th Street, appreciated Commissioner Browning surveying cell tower sites but noted that certain sites were illegal and not approved by the FAA. He added that preexisting airport adjacent towers did not necessarily set a precedent or provide an argument that those towers are a good idea and he pointed out that the site is going to be given away to a private concern which not a good idea. Mr. King felt that comments from Commissioners telling tenants how to do their business at the airport to work around the tower were inappropriate and he asserted that a 60 foot obstacle on the perimeter of the airport was not a good idea. He stated his intent to contact the FAA about the proposed tower and added that harmonics can interfere with GPS systems and to put a radiating RF tower in the airport is a bad idea for many reasons.

Mr. King commented on changes to parking on Airport Drive which benefit the car dealerships while discriminating against Robinson Helicopter which is an airport tenant immediately adjacent and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that Community Development had indicated the changes were to alleviate parking in the community on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway and that Robinson had ample parking for employees. Commissioner Browning asserted that Robinson did not object as the changes were designed to stop car dealer parking in Robinson's rented places.

8n. Commissioner Tymczyszyn commented that Robinson employees often parked on Airport Drive as it is easier for them to get out at the end of the day.

80. Chairperson Pyles proposed establishing rules for appropriate behavior, cautioned against making assumptions and suggested that matters that would offend others be discussed with the Chairperson, staff first. He cited the issue of the lease agreement and indicated that if a similar situation comes up again he would ensure there is a consistent opinion on how to proceed. He added that when addressing the Council there should not be more than two Commissioners sitting together in one location.

Commissioner Ouwerkerk acknowledged that Chairperson Pyles was trying to keep Commissioners from going afoul of the Brown Act but he felt it was up to each of them to establish their own behavior.

Commissioner Gates pointed out that a training session for new Commissioners had been cancelled and not yet reinstated and he recommended that all Commissioners attend the session which would cover all the issues and ensure a consistent view.

Chairperson Pyles clarified that his objective was to have the Commissioners work as a team.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:28 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Thursday, August 11, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission meeting room.

Approved as Amended September 8, 2005 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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